YEAH, WE'RE TRYING TO FORGET IT, TOO **THE WORD** {pages 10-11}

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NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Vinyl. Resurgence

▶ This piece is part of "The Record" exhibit currently on display at the ICA.

Vinyl is not just for the birds

Your grandparents used them. They scratch easily. The sound quality stinks. So how is it possible that records are making a comeback? With a record store now open in Somerville and an exhibit at the ICA, vinyl lovers tell us why they love it. {page 05}

Irene kills one, causes destruction in Bay State

- Southbridge man electrocuted by downed wire yesterday
- Downed trees keep cleanup crews busy
- Hundreds of thousands still without power {page 02}

News

Who's going to pay for all the cleanup?

- Irene brings back budget debate in Washington {page 06}

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1 dead, flooding in Irene's wake

The once-powerful hurricane left a trail of debris and floods that forced residents to clean up yesterday ◗ Downed lines caused one electrocution ◗ Eastern Mass. returns to normal while Western Mass. reels after storm

ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

▶ Branches lay on the grass at the Boston Common yesterday after Irene left trees and power lines down across Massachusetts.

While residents of Greater Boston started yesterday morning with relief and wonderment of Hurricane Irene's lackluster impact here, it was a much different Monday for residents of Western Massachusetts.

Richard Gorgone, 52, a Southbridge town worker was electrocuted as he left his home yesterday morning while touching a railing that a downed power line had come into contact with, state officials said.

Also, dozens of roads remained closed and nearly 500,000 people were still without power.

"There's a lot of work here to do in clearing trees, clearing limbs and getting power restored so we ask for people to be patient and to be cautious as well," Gov. Deval Patrick said from the state's emergency management bunker in Framingham.

Most of the homes and businesses without power were expected to have electricity back by today.

Although the worst of the devastation was located in the western part of the state, there were issues in Greater Boston.

Thousands in Boston woke up without power yesterday and debris in the Boston Common and Public Garden was still being cleaned up. There was enough debris that officials closed Frog Pond yesterday.

In Marshfield, police said a person was found dead Sunday, possibly as a result of the storm knocking out power. However, no further information was available.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

By the numbers

480K+
Massachusetts customers without power as of Monday evening.

3,500
Households and businesses in Boston that had no power yesterday morning.

100
Trees cleared from MBTA tracks during the storm.

30+
Irene's death toll nationwide, including one confirmed fatality in Mass.

533
Boston Fire personnel responded to more than 500 incidents between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. There are 195 responses in a typical 24-hour day.

500
Approximate number of reports for trees on Boston roadways and homes, according to the city.

In the news

6.4%

According to an MBTA spokesman, the T's July 2011 ridership is up 6.4 percent from the same time last year. The increase is another notch in the transit systems belt of continuing record-breaking ridership trends for calendar year 2011. METRO

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WWW.METRO.US/MOVIES
SHARK NIGHT 3D: LIVE THE NIGHTMARE

WWW.METRO.US/ENTERTAINMENT
BEHIND-THE-SCENES AT THE VMAS

Murder for hire? FBI thinks so

BOSTON. A Roxbury man was charged yesterday in federal court for trying to have a Worcester County prosecutor killed.

Pernell Powell, 73, sought out an inmate to kill the prosecutor while he was awaiting trial for his fifth drunken driving charge, authorities said.

Powell allegedly agreed to pay the inmate $2,000 as a deposit for the murder and $2,000 more after it was committed.

The inmate wrote to the FBI to tell them about the arrangement. METRO

MICHAEL LAYNE SR.

▶ Lee Burbank Highway

One arrest, one missing in hit-and-runs

BOSTON. An East Boston man was arrested yesterday for allegedly killing a 22-year-old in a hit-and-run in Revere.

Jon Ravida, 47, was charged with killing Sothany Pen just before 6 a.m. on Lee Burbank Highway.

Pen had left her night-shift job for a nearby department store when she was hit, authorities said.

Meanwhile, police are still searching for the driver who fatally hit a 39-year-old Chelsea man about 12:30 a.m. Saturday on Route 16 and fled. METRO

Data

49

Gawker.com has ranked the Bay State the 49th worst in the country. The gossip blog called the city specifically "a Volvo-driving leftie mecca" that is notoriously racially segregated and class divided. The site also took a hit at the city's sports teams and its fans, dubbing Red Sox supporters as "the worst" in sports. New York beat Boston by one place, coming in at 50th. METRO

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Woman attacked near station

An Ohio man was ordered held on bail yesterday after he was charged with violently attacking a woman as she left the Quincy Center T station.

Robert Koontz, 30, pleaded not guilty during his arraignment to charges that included attempted murder, kidnapping and assault with intent to rape.

The woman told police she had left the station just after midnight Saturday after she got out of work. She had a sense someone was following her and when she turned around a man, later identified as Koontz, ran up behind her, grabbed her and began choking and punching her, according to Quincy police.

Koontz then allegedly dragged her into a wooded area near Granite Street, but the woman was able to escape and he fled.

Officers were eventually able to find Koontz with the help of a police K-9.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Arraigned

Robert Koontz was ordered held on $100,000 cash bail yesterday. He was also ordered to stay away from the victim if released. Koontz is due back in court Sept. 30.

ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

College. Welcome

▶ More than 150 Emerson students helped 900 new undergrads move in yesterday and today.

A whole lot of class

Emerson College welcomed 900 incoming students during daylong orientations that included singing, dancing and some forms of chanting. All along Boylston Street, Washington Street and outside the Paramount Center members of the class of 2015 unloaded boxes, beds and college necessities. METRO

Coolidge Corner burglar sought

BROOKLINE. Police are asking for the public's help in finding a man believed to be responsible for a rash of break-ins early yesterday morning in the Coolidge Corner area.

Fire Opal, Bottega Fiorentina and the Coolidge Corner Clubhouse were broken into about 5 a.m., police said.

The man was unable to get through a rear entrance of the Clubhouse and left.

Money was taken from the registers of the other two businesses after the man apparently smashed the front doors.

Anyone with information can call 617-730-2222. METRO

Obama's half-uncle arrested

FRAMINGHAM. President Brack Obama's half-uncle was arrested last week in Framingham for allegedly driving drunk.

Onyango Obama, 67, of Framingham, was arrested Wednesday at 7:10 p.m. outside the Chicken Bone Saloon, according to a police log.

A spokesman for immigration attorney Margaret Wong said Obama is the president's half-uncle, according to the Globe.

The MetroWest Daily News reported Obama is in the country illegally from Kenya. METRO

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For the record: Vinyl sales up in digital age

- Somerville resident opens store to meet demand
- Not just the sound, but vinyl itself that's satisfying

Mister Jason never uses digitized music when he DJs.

"I only spin vinyl," said the Boston-based producer. "In terms of music I make — it's vinyl only, as well. It's my preferred medium."

Mister Jason is one of many music enthusiasts who still purchases the plastic discs, despite the evolution of digital music.

"It's that feeling of dropping a needle on a record. The warm sound, the crackle, it's better than everything else," he said.

Although cassettes and 8-tracks are virtually extinct and CDs are declining, vinyl has survived the digital age.

"There is a real value to vinyl culturally and socially that goes beyond the music," said Trevor Schoonmaker, curator at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University.

He said vinyl offers something more than just a warm sound and a familiar crackle — it also has a physical sense of permanence.

"There is so much more potential for creativity and the exploration of ideas including cover art, colored vinyl, packaging," he said.

Each element plays a role in how vinyl has survived and continues to trend in the music industry, he said.

At Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art, Schoonmaker organized "The Record," a display examining the culture behind vinyl through an artistic lens.

The exhibit explores artwork highlighting vinyl's recent resurgence.

That resurfacing is what allowed Somerville resident David Plunkett to follow his dream of opening a record store last week.

"They will never be the hugest thing, but true music-lovers will always turn to vinyl," said Plunkett.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ David Plunkett recently opened up Somerville Grooves record shop in Union Square.

Record breaking

According to Nielsen SoundScan:

37 percent
Percentage vinyl sales were up in 2011 over the previous year

1.2 percent
Percentage of physical sales vinyl accounted for nationwide in 2010

1.6 percent
Increase in music sales in the U.S. in 2011

93 out of 100
Number of best-selling vinyl albums in 2011 that fell within the rock or alternative genres

Still in store

For the last four years, Record Store Day has brought people away from computers and into record stores to purchase tunes. This year was the most successful Record Store Day in the event's four-year history, according to Nielsen results. Album sales at independent record stores increased more than 39 percent that week.

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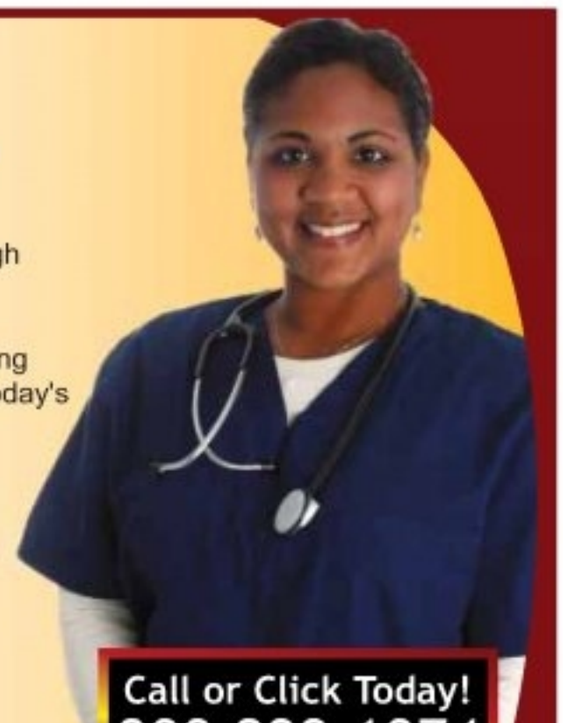

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Irene costs restart budget battle in DC

- Storm costs could come to billions of dollars
- Republicans want budget cuts to offset disaster aid

JOSE LUIS MAGANA/REUTERS

▶ Highway 12, the main road that connects Cape Hatteras National Seashore to the mainland, was destroyed by Hurricane Irene in Rodanthe, N.C.

Washington's never-ending budget battle threatened to snarl the recovery from Hurricane Irene as a top Republican said yesterday that any federal aid will have to be offset by spending cuts elsewhere.

"Yes there's a federal role, yes we're going to find the money. We're just going to make sure that there are savings elsewhere," Representative Eric Cantor, the No. 2 Republican in the House, told Fox News.

Democrats who oversee disaster funding in the Senate said they won't cut other programs to boost emergency aid.

5M

More than 5 million households were still without electricity yesterday, the U.S. Department of Energy said.

"It makes no sense to cut programs that help respond to future disasters in order to pay for emergencies that have already occurred," Democratic Senator Mary Landrieu said in a prepared statement.

Irene killed at least 30 people and caused substantial property damage from North Carolina to Vermont over the weekend. Cantor's Virginia district was among the areas hit by the storm, and was the epicenter of an earthquake last week.

Obama administration officials said they had no estimate of the storm's cost and were still assessing the damage, but other elected officials and companies have indicated it will likely amount to billions of dollars.

The administration may have to ask Congress for additional funding at a time when lawmakers are debating further budget cuts. REUTERS

New Jersey

Raging waterways caused dramatic flooding yesterday across New Jersey, as the state's rivers and creeks rose from the force of Hurricane Irene. Several rivers have not yet crested, and the rising waters threatened to smash longtime flood records, authorities said.

New York

Spared from Irene's worst fury, New York City went back to work yesterday despite a partially crippled mass transit system and power outages to 100,000 customers. Air travel at New York City's three major area airports slowly resumed service.

Vermont

President Obama has declared a state of emergency for Vermont, experiencing its worst flooding in recent memory. At least one person was killed after being swept into a swollen river in the mountainous, land-locked New England state, which rarely sees tropical storms.

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Killings as more defect Syrian army

An armored Syrian force surrounded a town near Homs yesterday and fired heavy machine guns after the defection of tens of soldiers from the area, activists and residents said.

Since the demise of Muammar Gaddafi's rule over Libya, activists and residents have reported increasing defections among Syrian troops. They say there have been desertions in eastern Deir al-Zor province, northwestern Idlib province, the Homs countryside and the outskirts of Damascus, where President Bashar al-Assad's forces fought gun battles with defectors on Sunday.

At least 40 light tanks and armored vehicles plus 20 buses of troops and government Military Intelligence deployed at the highway entrance of Rastan, 12 miles north of the city of Homs, and began firing heavy machine guns at the town, two residents said. REUTERS

"The regime's political control on the army had seemed unbreakable, but that is no longer the case."

A SYRIAN POLITICAL ANALYST WHO DID NOT WANT TO BE NAMED BECAUSE OF FEAR FOR HIS SAFETY

ERIC FEFERBERG/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Libya. Roundup

▶ A rebel Libyan fighter stands on top of a machine gun as anti-Gaddafi forces head to his hometown of Sirte.

Gaddafi remains at large

The wife of Muammar Gaddafi and other members of his family took refuge in Algeria yesterday, but the whereabouts of the fugitive former strongman himself remained a mystery. A senior rebel officer said Gaddafi's son Khamis had been killed in a clash outside of Tripoli. Meanwhile, rebel forces converged on Gaddafi's hometown of Sirte. REUTERS

Scotland not planning on extraditing Libyan killer

LONDON. Scotland announced yesterday it had no plans to request the extradition of the Libyan convicted of the 1988 bombing of a U.S.-bound airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie. Abdel Basset al-Megrahi was found guilty of bombing Pan Am flight 103 while en route from London to New York on December 21, 1988. A total of 270 people were killed.

Megrahi was sentenced to life imprisonment in Scotland in 2001, but released two years ago on compassionate grounds and returned to Libya because he was suffering from advanced terminal prostate cancer and was thought to have months to live. REUTERS

Hard time?

Megrahi is living in a palatial house in upmarket Tripoli, according to reports, though a reporter who saw him said he seemed "at death's door."

UN warns of bird flu mutations

ROME. The United Nations warned of a possible major resurgence of bird flu and said a mutant strain of the H5N1 virus was spreading in Asia and elsewhere.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization urged increased surveillance and preparation for a potential outbreak of the virus, which it says has infected 565 people since it first appeared in 2003, killing 331 of them. REUTERS

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Tom Hill
CGA STAFF WRITER

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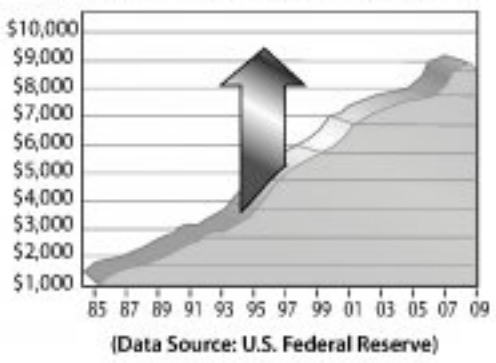

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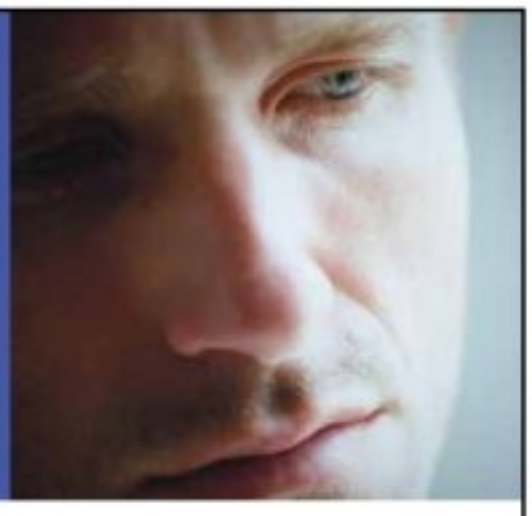

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2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Lil Jon on making the party happen

While **Lil Jon** had to skip town right before the big show at Sunday's VMAs, he had a moment to talk to Metro about how he's kept busy the past year — and how he's going to be the new **Celine Dion** (our words, not his).

"I've been doing a lot of DJing around the world. I just finished the new single and dropped it — 'Drink,' featuring **LMFAO**. I'm working on the album 'Party Animal.' Should be out next year," he told us. "And I have a residency in Vegas at Surrender. I'm there every two weeks. It's great. I never thought I'd be doing it like **Dean Martin** or **Siegfried and Roy** and those guys, but I'm there like them. It's cool."

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

With "Drink," Lil Jon is becoming the go-to guy for beverage anthems, and he's OK with that. "I thought we couldn't top 'Shots' for a party song, but it's right up there with 'Shots,'" he says. "When you hear the record, it makes you want to go to the club and drink and party. A little push helps."

"Drink," "Shots" — maybe if he calls his next single, "Big Gulp," he can actually make some money in the music industry.

— With additional reporting by Ned Ehbar

▶ Lil Jon loves songs about alcoholic beverages.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Kelly Osbourne is questioning her friend's plans, Kirstie Alley is full of love, Daniel Tosh has standards to maintain and Jonah Hill has been listening to his detractors too much.

▶ **@MissKellyO**
my friend omar just confessed that if he ever has children he wants to call the girl 'focus' and the boy 'trumpet'.... thoughts?

▶ **@kirstiealley**
Ok...so I love everybody in the entire flippin universe again!!!!!

▶ **@danieltosh**
if your favorite beastie boys song isn't 'high plains drifter' then we can never make love.

▶ **@JonahHill**
I bet skinny Jonah Hilll isn't as funny as fat Jonah Hill.

Kelly Rowland on Beyonce's baby

Of course, now that the world knows about **Beyonce**'s baby, **Kelly Rowland** wants you all to know that she knew before all of us, thankyouverymuch. "I have known for quite a while," B's Destiny's Child bandmate told People on Sunday night about the happy disclosure. "And she's happy, and **Jay** is happy, and that's all that counts."

Which is translated as: "You do know that I used to be in a group with her, right? And do you want some proof that I'm actually still close with her? How about this: I totally knew before any of you press punks did!"

Rowland

Talking points

Brad Pitt to the rescue

Brad Pitt has been playing heroes for so long, it must come naturally to him now. The actor reportedly jumped in to rescue a woman from being trampled on the set of his latest film, "World War Z," currently filming in Scotland, according to the Scottish Sun. Pitt's rescue attempt happened during a dangerous scene involving 700 panicking extras. "I don't think she could believe it when Brad picked her up," a source says. "He didn't have time to speak to her as it was midshoot. But she said afterward how grateful she was, despite having a badly grazed knee."

▶ Spears

Britney Spears' secrets

Britney Spears insists that, despite years of being an international celebrity, people don't really know the real her. "I can be pretty guarded with my personal life and I've learned that's OK," Spears tells Pop Justice in an interview. "Sometimes it's our secrets that define us." And despite any troubles her fame has caused her, that doesn't mean she'd be opposed to sons Sean and Jayden following her into show business. "I'd definitely keep an eye on them, but if that's what they wanted to do, then I'd let them go after it. I'd just be very protective," she says. "I wouldn't want them to go into it feeling fearful."

Oh, to be a fly on the wall

Jake Gyllenhaal's ears must've been burning, as two of his exes got together for lunch recently. **Reese Witherspoon**, just back from a Hawaiian vacation, met up with country singer **Taylor Swift** for lunch in Beverly Hills over the weekend, according to Us Weekly. The two hit it off so well that Witherspoon even gave Swift a lift home. Swift sat out Sunday night's MTV Video Music Awards, but she had a good excuse: She was performing a concert next door at the Staples Center.

Baldwin hunkers down

While Hurricane Irene caused damage up and down the East Coast of the U.S., Alec Baldwin wasn't that impressed. He and girlfriend Hilaria Thomas hunkered down in East Hampton, where the "30 Rock" star provided updates on their condition. "Sweating out the hurricane. If we go, we're going in style," he wrote Saturday night while the couple dined at a nearby restaurant. "Tomorrow, yoga on surfboards!"

▶ Baldwin

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Girls run the world (at least at the VMAs)

The MTV Video Music Awards are all about shock and awe, but this year it was mostly the ladies who delivered on that front. Here are the pictorial highlights of the winning women, a few dudes and one Lady who looks like a dude.

1. Looking like a cross between Ralph Macchio and Paul from "The Wonder Years," Lady Gaga opened the show (and stayed in character throughout) as her alter-ego, Jo Calderone. Gaga took home trophies for "Born This Way," for Best Video With a Message and Best Female Video.

2. Beyonce finished her rousing rendition of "Love on Top" by patting her barely visible baby bump. Are people calling that fetus Babyonce yet? If not, we want credit! Mama Beyonce took home a statue for Best Choreography in a video for "Run the World (Girls)."

3. So Selena Gomez apparently didn't dump Justin Bieber, center, or his snake, left. Yes, he is holding a snake in his right hand. Biebs would later hold a moon man statue, which he won for Best Male Video, with "U Smile."

4. Nicki Minaj got colorful and conical with her hair and her ice cream necklace. Minaj won the award for Best Hip-Hop Video for "Super Bass."

5. Tyler, the Creator does not look too pleased about his win for Best New Artist.

6. Katy Perry may have broken records for her outfit, but the singer, who had the most nominations for VMAs this year, only took home three Moonmen. Not to diminish her achievement though, that's three more VMAs than we have — and one was Video of the Year for "Firework."

1, 5, 6. STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES
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TV watch list

'Quirky'

REALITY. Designers and engineers at tech company Quirky select products submitted by inventors to develop on the fly. While we wish them success, we're also pretty sure the infomercial market doesn't have room for one more tricked-out pasta strainer. **Season premiere, 10 p.m., Sundance**

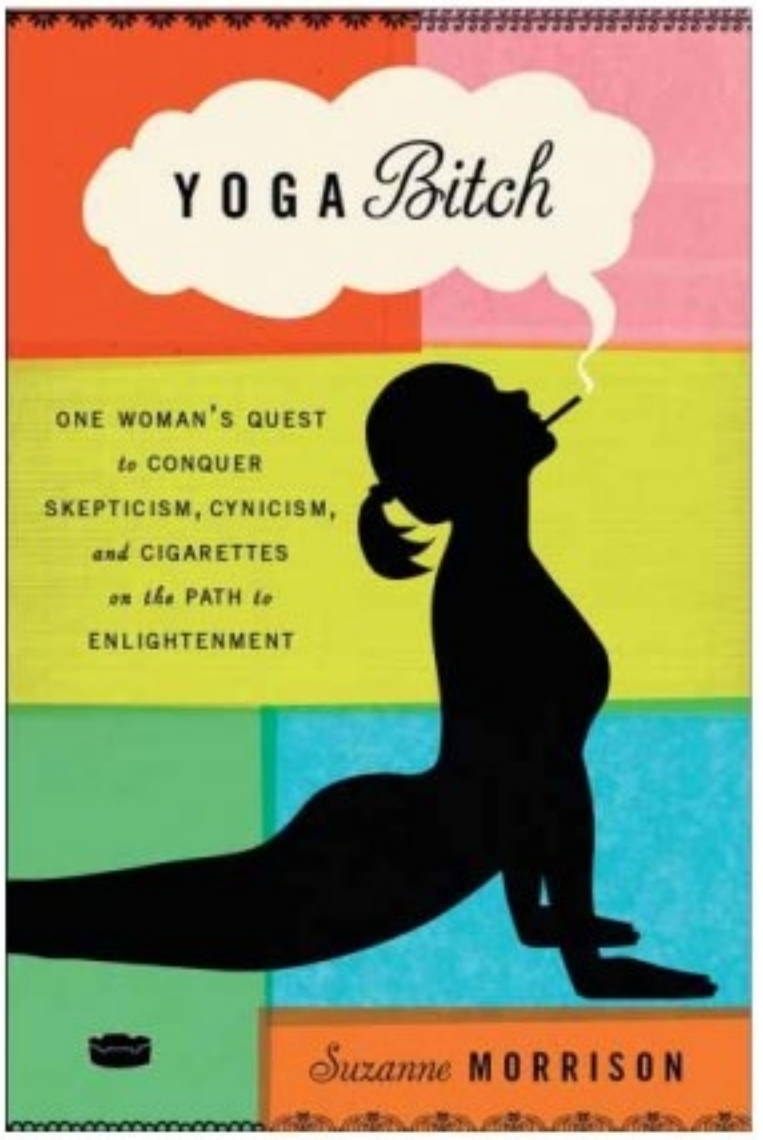
'Chelsea Lately'

TALK. At the risk of inviting Chelsea Handler and tonight's guest, The Situation, into our late-night lives, we can't resist their vodka stories. **11 p.m., E!**

MONICA WEYMOUTH

Things that make you go: 'Om'

Suzanne Morrison goes on a yogic journey with a healthy dose of skepticism in new memoir Her unique path to 'enlightenment'


YOGA Bitch
ONE WOMAN'S QUEST to CONQUER SKEPTICISM, CYNICISM, and CIGARETTES on the PATH to ENLIGHTENMENT
Suzanne MORRISON

If you think reading about a quest for spiritual fullness sounds about as spunky as a bran muffin, the new memoir "Yoga Bitch: One Woman's Quest to Conquer Skepticism, Cynicism, and Cigarettes on the Path to Enlightenment," might just change your mind. Author Suzanne Morrison recounts her reformative journey at a two-month yoga retreat in Bali with her iridescent, seemingly perfect yoga teacher, Indra, with a sense of humor so wicked it would even make Bikram sweat a little.

"That's part of why I wrote the book," Morrison, who is also an actress, says from her home in Seattle. "The yoga memoirs when I first started writing it were so serious and earnest and self-regarding. And it just seemed very off-putting. I wanted to do something that would be different and fun."

And yes, Morrison is aware the basic plot of "Yoga Bitch" — a dissatisfied woman going to Bali in order to find herself — is familiar to a little memoir titled "Eat, Pray, Love," but it doesn't get her chakras riled up.

"I started 'Yoga Bitch' as a show in 2003 so it was before 'Eat, Pray, Love,'" she says. "People started talking about [Gilbert's memoir], saying, 'It's just like your book!' But then I read it and it was like slaying a dragon. It was just so different."

Although Morrison's quest to Bali wasn't quite as life-changing as she envisioned it being, she hasn't given up on yoga — she's still a regular practitioner at a studio in Washington. Still, not everyone there is in the know that she's behind a book with such a title. "I don't talk to them that much. I just go, do yoga and then get out."

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

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myentertainment

Bright Eyes are looking forward

‘The People’s Key’ is not the final album from Conor Oberst’s band ◗ Singer on finding catharsis in concert

Conor Oberst has been making music under the Bright Eyes moniker since he was 15. But when the band released “The People’s Key” earlier this year, there was some buzz that it might be the last we’d hear from the formative indie rock group from Nebraska. Oberst says not to worry.

▶ Oberst, center, says his whole career has been a learning process.

I’ve read that this is the final Bright Eyes album. Is that true?
No, not definitively. We don’t really have any plans for the future at this point, but ... that was something where someone took a quote that I said [out of context] and that was something that other people decided. We never made an official announcement. Even if it were our last record, we wouldn’t say it was our last record. As the rumor mill works, that’s kind of the way it goes. You can definitely quote me, this is not the last Bright Eyes, for sure.

What are some of your favorite songs to play live these days?
We keep adding on at sound check. The last one we learned was this one called “I Believe in Symmetry” which is on the “Digital Ash” record, and that’s always been a good one live. It has a sort of cathartic ending.

How often do you achieve catharsis when performing?
Night-to-night, the goal is always to be in the music and feel as connected to it as possible, and depending on the environment and the crowd and our states of mind ... I think on a good night we totally achieve that. Sometimes there are distractions or things that can take me out of the moment, but the goal is to reach that point where you remember, I guess, just remember the place, the feeling, that created the song, and try to get back to that.

Q&A

Your voice sounds more secure, and less wavery, on “The People’s Key.”

I know what you mean. I never knew how to sing. I’ve never had any formal training or anything like that, so all my life has been one big trial-and-error as far as like learning to sing, and play guitar, and play piano, writing. ... Same with Mike [Mogis, producer] and how he records music. The whole thing has been a learning process, so I think it makes sense that my voice sounds different at 31 than it did at age 21 or 17. ... I just became a better singer just from doing it so much. We also experimented a lot more with vocal effects. There are delays and different things [that] can give the impression of a ... hi-fi, processed sound.

If you go

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PAT HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

Loeffler Randall’s fall bridal line

So much importance is placed on the gown a bride will choose for her big day, but what about the footwear?

“A good bridal shoe is something that is totally ‘you.’ You need to feel like yourself on your wedding day and be able to express your own individual style,” says Jessie Randall, founder and creative director of Loeffler Randall, who launched her second bridal collection last week. “Our bridal line has the same spirit as our regular collection — they are modern and feminine with an edge.”

But unlike regular shoes, says Randall, “Bridal shoes are really special. So I keep that in mind while designing them. They have to take your breath away.” Leaving us breathless this season are styles including a blush version of her hip, pointy-toe booties, sexy blue velvet lace-up stilettos, metallic lizard-printed pumps and satin heels topped with a feminine rosette. The best part: The collection is so non-bride-y that you don’t need to be a future Mrs. So-And-So to add them to your arsenal. TINA CHADHA

For her own wedding

“I got married before starting my company, so I wore a beautiful pair of pink Stella McCartney heels,” says Randall. “The takeaway from my wedding was that the shoes need to be really special and you have to absolutely love them, as I did mine.”

The bridal collection ranges from $450-$625.

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3 Ways to not land the job

It'll take more than spell-checking your résumé and giving a nice firm handshake ◗ Tony Lee, publisher of CareerCast.com, on the biggest red flags for recruiters

▶ Even if you know you're perfect for the job, you need to play the professional interview game.

1. Being too casual

Sometimes, being your lovable, charming self isn't the best approach. "One of the biggest problems is people think of themselves as being pretty smart, so they think they can wing it — they'll impress companies and interviewers and recruiters just by being themselves," says Lee. "But you really need to be ready to show why you're the best candidate and are ready for the job. Make sure you're not too casual in your approach."

MONICA WEYMOUTH
monica.weymouth@metro.us

2. Submitting a general application

Even if the positions you're applying for are similar, take the time to personalize each cover letter and résumé — it'll make you stand out from the majority of applicants who don't. "One of the biggest complaints we hear from employers is that candidates aren't very savvy about applying for jobs," says Lee. "They fire off the same application for every job without tailoring it for that position, and without carefully looking for an opportunity that you'd be successful at."

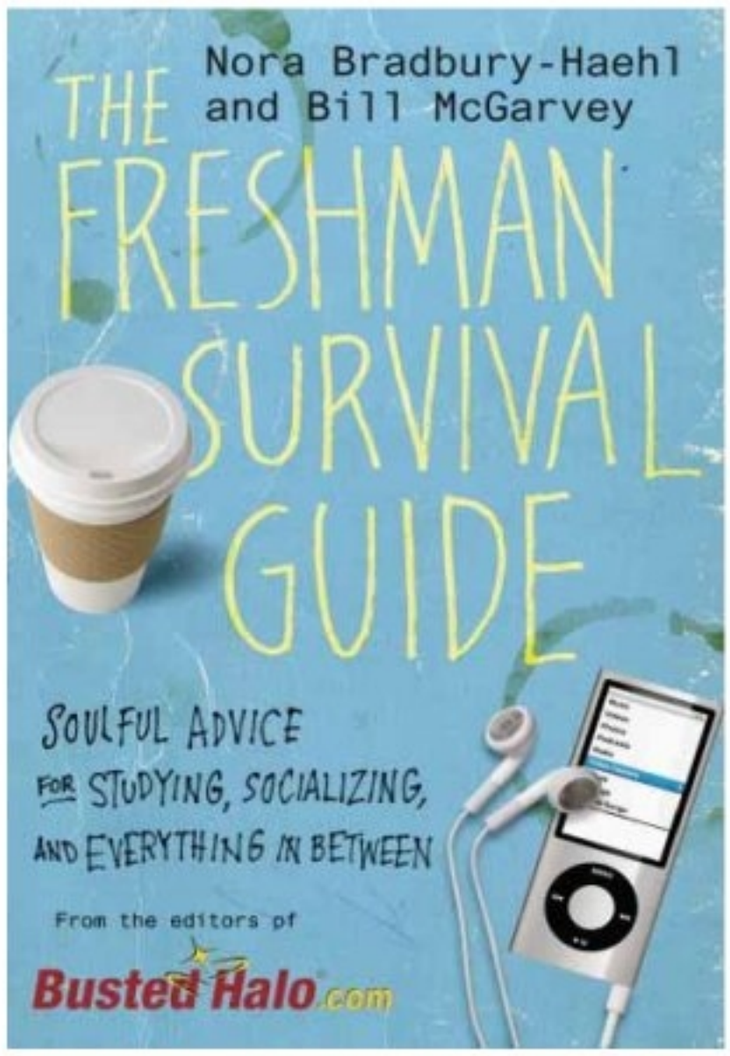
3. Not explaining employment gaps

If you haven't been working, you're far from alone. But it's important to account for that time to prospective employers. "They're afraid that if you've been out of work for a couple years, you've fallen into bad habits. What you have to show is that you've been active," says Lee. "If you can show that in the last year you helped manage three events at your children's schools that helped raise over $20,000, it shows that you've been active."

Do some cleaning up on Google

You can clean up your Facebook profile, but if your Google search results aren't flattering, that's a little more difficult to work around. One easy diversion that Lee suggests is to invite employers to visit your polished LinkedIn or Google+ profile so they don't have to search.

On the slightly more sneaky side, if "Anthony Lee" turned up questionable search results, he suggests applying as the still correct and honest "Tony Lee."



'Freshman Survival' shows what the textbooks won't

For their book "The Freshman Survival Guide," authors Nora Bradbury-Haehl and Bill McGarvey of BustedHalo.com interviewed professors, administrators, campus ministers and students alike in order to give incoming freshmen a primer on practicalities they'll need to know their first year of college — and also to help them tackle the bigger questions. We went to McGarvey with some questions of our own.

What's the biggest mistake freshmen make when they start college?

They assume that everybody is going to be trustworthy, and a few weeks or months into the semester, you might realize that person you befriended can be not really worthy of your trust. You spend 18 years getting to this point and you have friendships and networks with people that know you and who you are: Don't just chuck them out the window because you're in college and everything is exciting and new.

Why did you choose to include matters of faith in your book? A lot of college guidebooks don't.

That's kind of the reason why. There's a lot of books out there about getting into school and making yourself a success in college, but there was nothing in there that dealt with the whole student. These books almost seem to assume that these students were a collection of brain cells and hormones. College kids are less religious but they're definitely getting more spiritual.

What should every freshman know upon starting college?

You're spending good money to get an education and there are enormous resources at your fingertips. You're gonna run into challenges, but there are places to turn and people that are there to help you.

MEREDITH ENGEL

Online Q&A

Can you expand on the book's Web component?

I came from a Web background, and I wanted to make sure that our book reflected the way younger college students read and interact with the media now. Throughout the book there are chapters where you can go online and get special information or contribute, but there's also this thing called the Interactive RA [where] resident assistants from around the country volunteer to take questions.

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Letters

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Blame game or just the facts?

RE: "HOW LONG CAN WE BLAME W.?": To answer Mr. Cowley's question, you can't unblame someone for something they were clearly responsible for. It's a part of history now.
JONATHAN PERRY, VIA E-MAIL

John Crowley wrote: "The Obamamaniacs blame Bush for everything." I just felt the need to point out that Mr. Crowley missed a good chance to use the term "Obamaniacs," which would have been more clever and far less redundant. Perhaps my version is harder to pronounce, but we can all agree that it isn't half as silly as that ridiculous "mama" sound one would be forced to make by speaking his out loud. I mean, come now, Mr. Crowley. Our president may need to pull up his big boy pants, but you need to sharpen your big boy wit. **THOMAS MURRAY, VIA E-MAIL**

Tea Partiers wonder why people get angry with them. It's because they say things that aren't true. They say Obama screwed up the economy and plays the "blame George Bush" game. Leading economists said that when a big enough crash happens, it take 8 to 10 years to recover. That's a fact about economics; it's not a blame game.
HARRY THORN, VIA E-MAIL

Capital crime: Tax dishonesty

Isn't it ironic how Warren Buffett stated that folks like him should pay more taxes, but at the same time his firm (Berkshire Hathaway) hasn't paid what is owed to the IRS since 2002? Pay up or shut up, Buffett.
RICARDO CUMMINGS, VIA E-MAIL

Why is anyone who disagrees with the outdated ideology of the right wing in this country branded a socialist? Is letter-writer Mark Barbee more capitalist than Warren Buffett or Bill Gates?
JEAN KAZADI, SALEM

What we need: Jobs not cuts

Instead of ending tax breaks for millionaires and large corporations, or stopping the pork barrel spending, the U.S. debt deal lays the groundwork for substantial cuts to vital federal programs like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Right now America needs to focus on creating jobs and lowering unemployment rather than cutting spending and undermining the economy.
CHARLES M. QUINN, VIA E-MAIL

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Horoscope

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** In order to be properly and fairly compensated for your work, you may have to champion your own cause. Don't allow someone who has no idea of what you do to set your pay scale.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Those in your charge must be made to realize there are reasons for rules and order and that these must be obeyed. Make it clear that unless things are legit, everyone will suffer.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** If you attempt to even up the score with someone who has wronged you, chances are you will incur even more complications. Instead of nursing a grudge, forgive and forget.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Many times we can unwittingly ignore the deserving while catering to someone who has wronged us. This could be the case for you currently, so take care not to do so.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** When there are bigger goals to be reached, wasting time and effort on something that will give you merely nominal gratification is wasteful.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** If the people with whom you associate find you difficult to please, they are apt to make a rapid exit.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** When having to work with extremely limited resources, play everything close to the vest. If you don't, you could easily get into trouble trying to bluff your way through it all.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Unless your aims are in harmony with those of your allies, what you attempt to do together will fizzle. Everyone must be working off the same game plan to be effective.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** In order to be a bit easier on yourself than usual, you should delegate some work responsibilities to your associates. Unless you do so, the chances of everything getting done are slim.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you try to apply a bit of pressure on someone who is indebted to you, this person may disappear rather than comply. He or she isn't ever likely to reciprocate your good turn.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Unless the dispersing of family funds is handled with consideration for all parties, it could become a sticky issue within the household for some time.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Co-workers are apt to emulate your behavior; so if you establish a poor example, nothing is likely to get done properly or even be finished.
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Across
1 Agile
7 Turn sharply
10 Austrian physicist Ernst
14 Long-winded
15 A mean Amin
16 Turkish official
17 Job hunter's need
18 Not decaf
19 Come down hard
20 Lofty pursuit?
23 Haughty types
26 Fair-hiring abbr.
27 Radii parallels
28 Frau's abode
29 Corral
30 Lawyer's charge
31 Ballpark fig.
32 Util. bill
33 Disposable hankies
37 Youth
38 Stein filler
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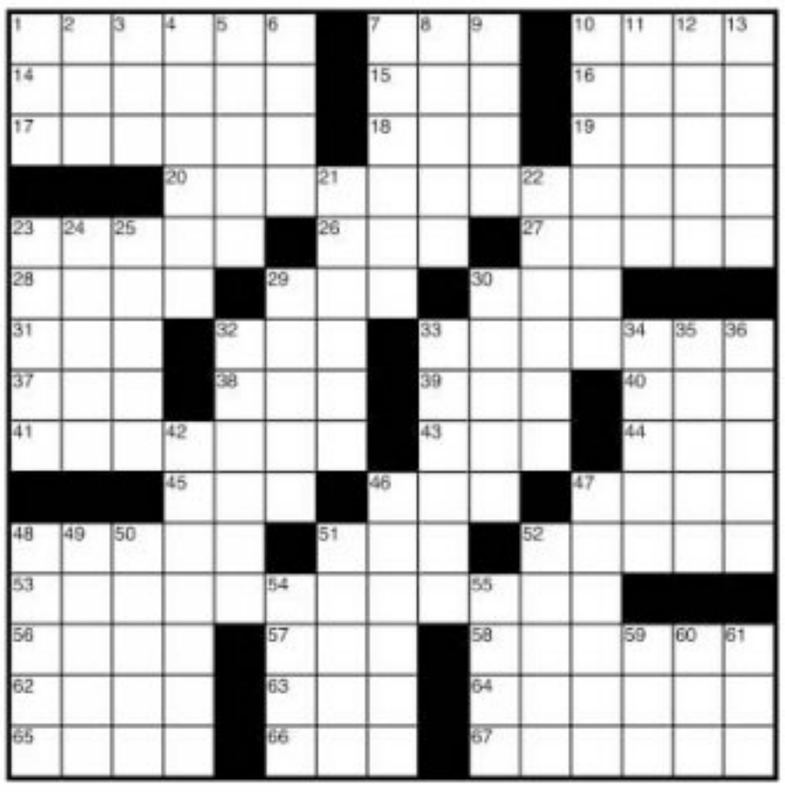
41 Pleased the dentist
43 Dernier __
44 Fossil fuel
45 Sporty truck
46 Mortar trough
47 Turn toward
48 Hit a home run
51 Cooking spray brand
52 Test versions
53 Bram Stoker setting
56 __ __-tat
57 Ginnie or Fannie
58 Impose taxes
62 Bit of gossip
63 Cable channel
64 Baked goody
65 Dumas senior
66 Washboard __
67 Happened next

Down
1 PBS relative
2 High dudgeon
3 Calendar divs.
4 Book jacket ads
5 Ritzy rides
6 Corp. biggie
7 Diamond-like gem
8 Ms. Astaire
9 Chevalier musical
10 Taws and aggies
11 From the top
12 Dinnerware
13 Puts up pictures
21 __ over (fainted)
22 Granola kin
23 Mantel
24 Kind of congestion
25 Excel
29 Martinique volcano
30 Cliff inlet
32 Likes and dislikes
33 Puget Sound port
34 Wolf-pack member (hyph.)
35 Susan Lucci vamp
36 Car deals
42 Smith or Jones
46 Places of safety
47 Luaus
48 Bacon unit
49 Egg protector
50 Cisco Kid flick
51 Backup strategy (2 wds.)
52 Plains drifters
54 Gym org.
55 Collar site
59 __ de cologne
60 Sault __ Marie
61 Turf



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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3			9	6				
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		9			7	8	1	
			3	4	9			
	4	5	6			9		
	8	3			6		9	2
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		1				4		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

C	O	M	A	■	A	R	O	S	E	■	E	L	A	N
A	V	E	C	■	R	E	G	A	L	■	C	U	B	E
R	A	S	H	■	F	A	R	S	I	G	H	T	E	D
P	L	A	I	T	■	C	E	E	■	O	O	Z	E	S
■	■	■	L	E	F	T	S	■	P	I	E	■	■	■
M	A	I	L	E	R	S	■	L	A	N	D	I	N	G
A	T	H	E	N	A	■	W	I	N	G	■	D	O	E
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T	I	A	■	D	I	C	E	■	O	R	E	L	S	E
S	C	R	A	W	N	Y	■	C	R	E	A	S	E	S
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A	T	O	L	L	■	M	I	N	■	D	E	C	O	Y
J	A	V	A	T	R	E	N	C	H	■	D	O	G	E
A	R	I	Z	■	A	R	G	U	E	■	I	D	E	A
R	O	D	E	■	E	V	E	N	S	■	N	E	E	R

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Eat your way through New Orleans

Few places are as worthy of a culinary-themed vacation as New Orleans. Visitors can quickly fill their itineraries — and stomachs — with nothing but samples of the city's iconic specialties: gumbo, jambalaya, crawfish etouffee, red beans and rice, po-boys, muffulettas and beignets. A gastronomic lineup like that needs a careful game plan; here's how we ate our way through the Big Easy in one weekend.

AMBER RAY
amber.ray@metro.us

▶ Brennan's Eggs Benedict are second to their premiere egg dish, Eggs La Nouvelle New Orleans.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF NEW ORLEANS CVB

▶ Don't miss the Seafood Boucherie at Bourbon House.

DAY 1

Breakfast

Cafe Du Monde
800 Decatur St.
504-525-4544
Arrive at Louis Armstrong International Airport on an early flight and have the cabbie drop you off at this quintessential outdoor cafe in the French Market. A cup of coffee au lait (mixed half and half with hot milk) and an order of the famous beignets — fried dough sprinkled with powdered sugar — will fuel the long day ahead. Burn off the calories with a stroll along the Mississippi River, just one block away.

Lunch

Dickie Brennan's Bourbon House
144 Bourbon St.
504-522-0111
Bourbon House is dedicated to local, in-season seafood; the Seafood Boucherie (smoked redfish rillettes, seafood boudin and the chef's daily terrine) is just one savory sample of the Gulf's finest. Adding to the local flavor, the dining room's huge picture windows overlook Bourbon Street. This notorious road is less bead-filled during the afternoon, the perfect time to take in the strip if you're not apt to enjoy it more after hours with an oversized Hurricane cocktail in hand.

Dinner

Sylvain
625 Charles St.
504-265-8123
A newer addition to the French Quarter culinary scene, Sylvain is understated charm with a contemporary mind-set — embodied perfectly in the Roasted Pork Po Boy (topped with sharp provolone and broccoli rabe on ciabatta). Date night here would be hard to beat, particularly if you cap the evening off with live jazz in one of the clubs lining nearby Frenchmen Street.

DAY 2

Breakfast

Brennan's
417 Royal St.
504-525-9711
Wine and dessert for breakfast? Yes, please! Brennan's is an institution in NOLA, a true throwback to old Southern elegance where the meal is served in courses and leisurely enjoyment of the food is encouraged. Does it get any more decadent than Eggs La Nouvelle Orleans — poached eggs served on a bed of lump crabmeat topped with brandy-cream sauce? Actually, yes — Brennan's is known as the birthplace of Bananas Foster.

Lunch

Food festival
French Quarter
There's always something to celebrate in New Orleans. We were in town for the second annual New Orleans Oyster Festival, where the turnout defied any notion that Gulf Coast seafood is unsafe to eat post-Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Festival-goers slurped oysters raw, charbroiled and cooked every way in between. "It's a celebration for the oyster itself, and the oyster fishermen. We donate the proceeds to conservatories that are trying to restore wetlands," explained festival board member Chris Berg of New Orleans Fish House, a major seafood supplier in the region.

Your next chance to sample the delicacies of the Louisiana waterways is Sept. 9-11 during the fifth annual New Orleans Seafood Festival (www.neworleansseafoodfestival.com).

Dinner

Mr. B's Bistro
201 Royal St.
504-523-2078
With a focus on Creole cuisine, Mr. B's is the right spot for Shrimp & Grits (Gulf shrimp are wrapped in applewood smoked bacon atop grits with red-eye gravy). Afterward, take in one last picturesque night walking through the historic Jackson Square, where the castlelike St. Louis Cathedral sits.

Where to stay

Bourbon Orleans Hotel, 717 Orleans St., 504-523-2222
In the heart of the French Quarter, the Bourbon Orleans was a convenient home base for our culinary tour of the city. www.bourbonorleans.com.

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Lackey, Sox looking to collect some marbles

Yankees in town for crucial, three-game series at Fenway ◗ Lackey vs. Sabathia in opener ◗ Right-hander has three wins in last four starts ◗ Lester gets ball in Thursday's finale

Here they go again.

The Red Sox and Yankees open yet another series tonight at Fenway Park. It's not for all the marbles — but it's for most of them.

Boston (82-51) led New York by just two games going into last night's Yankees game at Baltimore, so this week's set will go a long way toward deciding the AL East. It is, though, far from the final blow in the historic rivalry: That's the climactic series at Yankee Stadium in late September.

The Sox are red hot (7-3 in their last 10) and great at home (40-25 this year). But the Yankees look to have the pitching advantage tonight. They're trotting out ace CC Sabathia (17-7, 2.99 ERA) against John Lackey.

The Boston right-hander (12-9, 5.98) has improved recently, with wins in three of his last four starts. But he's been anything but dominant, giving up four or more runs in five of his last six outings. The one time he gave up fewer than four was a six-inning, three-run start against the Yankees on Aug. 6, a 10-4 Sox win.

Sabathia has been a horse for New York, going seven or more innings in all but one of his starts since June 14. The only time he didn't was that same Aug. 6 game, when he gave up seven runs in six frames. METRO

On TV today

Yankees at Red Sox, 7:10 p.m. (NESN, WEEI)

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lackey got the start in a 10-4 Sox win over the Yankees back on Aug. 6.

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Starting pitchers

Here is a look at who's taking the mound this week at Fenway:

Tonight: John Lackey, RHP (12-9, 5.98 ERA) vs. CC Sabathia, LHP (17-7, 2.99)
The scoop: Lackey is 8-8 with a 4.67 ERA in 21 career starts vs. the Yankees

Tomorrow: Josh Beckett, RHP (11-5, 2.43 ERA) vs. Phil Hughes, RHP (4-4, 6.46)
The scoop: Beckett is 13-7 with a 5.37 ERA vs. Yankees

Thursday: Jon Lester, LHP (14-6, 3.09 ERA) vs. A.J. Burnett, RHP (9-11, 5.31)
The scoop: Lester is 8-2 with a 3.62 ERA in 15 career starts vs. the Yankees

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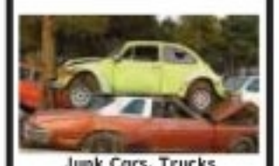

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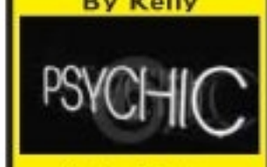

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